

**Human Right Commission
January 26, 2005 Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Mark Thomas, Glenn Glasgow, Randy Cole, Marie Glaze, Noel English, Valeta Snell

Members Excused:

Members Absent: Lawrence Morganfield III

Staff Present: Stephanie Browning, Alicia Cornish, Fred Boeckmann, Shawna Victor

- I. **Call to Order/Introductions:** Glaze called the meeting to order and introductions were made.
- II. **Approval of Agenda:** Glasgow made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Thomas and was approved unanimously.
- III. **Approval of 11/16/05 Meeting Minutes:** Snell made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2005 meeting. The motion was seconded by Glasgow and was approved unanimously.
- IV. **Old Business**
 - A. **Community Study Circles Program Report:** Browning asked Commissioners to register for "LET'S TALK, COLUMBIA!". The registration deadline is Friday, January 27, 2006. Registration brochures were handed out to Commissioners.
 - B. **Fair Housing Implementation Committee:** Browning said Tom Lata has put the committee on hold since Phil Steinhaus' decided to leave his position with the City. The Committee is still in formation stage but does include Cole. Lata intends have Steinhaus serve since Doris Chiles was on the Committee as CEO of Columbia Housing Authority. Other parties/names of interest mentioned by Lata were Rev. Lorenzo Lawson, David Finke, someone representing insurance, a minority leader, someone who deals with tenants, a representative from Services for Independent Living or other disability advocate, a representative from Commerce Bank, and one other city employee from Lata's department. If HRC members have suggestions, please e-mail them to Nanette Ward and she will forward them to Lata. Lata's department is dealing with auditors at this time but expects a visit from HUD on February 21, 2006 and would like to have the Committee appointed by then, perhaps have also had a meeting by then. Lata plans on contacting committee members and potential members in the next few weeks.
 - C. **Columbia Values Diversity Celebration:** All HRC members were at the CVDC. All enjoyed. English suggested to continue having Dr. Clyde Ruffin recite a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. speech every year. This suggestion will be forwarded to the CVDC Planning Committee.
- V. **New Business**
 - A. **Office Staff and Relocation:** Browning discussed the relocation of the Office of Community Services to the Health Department and how she believes OCS and the Health Department will be able to assist each other with community needs.

Browning noted interviews for the Office of Community Service Manager will take place next week.
 - B. **Commission Terms to Expire:** Glaze said the terms of Cole and Snell expire March 1, 2006. They will need to put in their application by January 27, 2006.

VI. **Staff Reports**

- A. **Community Services:** Browning passed around the Human Rights Enhancement Program Funding FY2005 Reports for Center for Multicultural Research, Training and Consultation, Helen A. Neville Multicultural Lecture Series and for Mid-Missouri Council of AVP, Alternative to Violence Program.
- B. **Law Department:** No reports at this time.
- C. **Investigator/Community Educator:** Browning said Erin Cozad had an opportunity come up at the end of last semester to spend this semester in London. Word was spread around MU Law School and many great applications came in. Nanette Ward interview three applicants. Alicia Cornish rose to the top with extremely impressive recommendations from her references. Cornish is a mature, non-traditional law student with residence in Columbia. She has intentions to be with the Commission long term. She is a study circles participant and a newly trained volunteer facilitator. She is committed and passionate in regards to human rights and the citizen dialogue process.

VII. **Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

VIII. **Commissioner Comment:** Glasgow passed around an article from the Kansas City Star about a sexual harassment law suit verdict against a company Ford Motor Company contracted with.

English passed around the calendar of Dr. Martin Luther King events at MU.

IX. **Closed Session to Discuss Pending Cases Pursuant to Section 610.021 (1) RSMo.:** English made a motion to move to closed session to discuss pending cases. The motion was seconded by Thomas and a roll call vote was taken. Cole called the roll with the following vote: Cole – Yes, English – Yes, Glasgow – Yes, Glaze – Yes, Snell – Yes, Thomas – Yes.

The Commission went back into open session.

X. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Browning
Columbia/Boone County Health Department